

Message Text

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TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 213971

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS

SUBJECT: NATO CONSULTATIONS ON TERRORISM

REF: USNATO 5243

1. IN LIGHT OF CONTINUED PERMREPS' INTEREST IN COUNTER-TERRORISM, DEPARTMENT CONCURS IN AMBASSADOR'S SUGGESTION OF US PAPER FOCUSING ON JAPANESE RED ARMY AND LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FROM THE HAGUE INCIDENT.

2. TOKYO 12501 (NOTAL) IS SORT OF GOOD RAW MATERIAL WHICH PROPOSED AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS MIGHT RECEIVE FROM JAPANESE OR OTHER SOURCES IN PROCESS OF EVALUATING THREAT
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TO EUROPEANS AND OTHERS UNDER NATO GOVERNMENTS' PROTECTION

AND JURISDICTION. ALTHOUGH THREAT IN EUROPE, AS SEEN FROM OPTIC OF TOKYO, MAY FOCUS ON JAPANESE INDIVIDUALS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, THE FACT THAT THE FAR FROM BENIGN RED ARMY STILL SEEMS TO BE OPERATING ALMOST AT WILL IN NATO EUROPE WOULD SEEM TO BE SUFFICIENT JUSTIFICATION FOR AT LEAST LIMITED SURVEILLANCE/APPREHENSION INITIATIVE FORESEEN IN PROPOSED STUDY. AS SEEN FROM OPTICS OF FRENCH AMBASSADOR SENARD, FRENCH AND DUTCH GOVERNMENTS, AND OTHERS PARTICIPATING IN STUDY, RED ARMY MAY BE JUDGED SOMEWHAT LESS CHARITABLY THAN BY GOJ, WHICH HAS KNOWN RED ARMY IN MORE BLOOD-THIRSTY DAYS IN THE HOME ISLANDS AND WHICH IS SOMEWHAT REMOVED AT LEAST GEOGRAPHICALLY FROM THEIR

CURRENT VIRULENCE. MOREOVER, PROPOSED STUDY HAS ADDITIONAL MERIT OF CONCENTRATING ON RELATIVELY SMALL, SELF-CONTAINED ENTITY AND ONE WHICH IS ONLY PERIPHERALLY INVOLVED IN COMPLEX POLITICAL ISSUES LIKE PALESTINIAN CAUSE. NATO SUCCESS IN COPING WITH THIS COMPARATIVELY MODEST CHALLENGE MIGHT INSPIRE THE ALLIANCE TO TACKLE MORE COMPREHENSIVE ONES IN THE TERRORISM FIELD.

3. DEPARTMENT THEREFORE INVITES MISSION'S CONSIDERATION OF FOLLOWING TEXT, WHICH HAS BEEN CONCURRED IN BY CIA, FOR SUBMISSION TO PERMREPS:

4. QUOTE PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY THE USA FOR AN AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS TO EXAMINE THE JAPANESE RED ARMY IN THE RECENT HAGUE INCIDENT AND IN LARGER CONTEXT:

5. THE JAPANESE RED ARMY HAS SHOWN ITSELF, DURING THE RECENT DETENTION OF THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR AND OTHERS IN THE HAGUE, TO BE A PARTICULARLY VIRULENT AND ADEPT, ALBEIT SMALL, TERRORIST ORGANIZATION. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT THE SAME GROUP MANIFESTED SIMILAR VICIOUSNESS IN CONNECTION WITH INCIDENTS AT LOD AIRPORT IN MAY, 1972, IN THE ATTACK OF JANUARY, 1974, ON THE SHELL OIL REFINERY IN SINGAPORE, AND IN THE HIJACKING OF A JAPANESE AIRLINER OUT OF AMSTERDAM IN JULY, 1973. ITS ASSOCIATION WITH OTHER EXTREMIST GROUPS LIKE THE PALESTINIAN PFLP HAS AUGMENTED ITS STRENGTH.

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6. INTELLIGENCE REPORTS, AS WELL AS OTHERS APPEARING IN THE PRESS, SUGGEST THAT THIS SAME ORGANIZATION HAS OTHER PLANS TO STRIKE AT TARGETS THROUGHOUT EUROPE AND ELSEWHERE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. ONE REPORT CITES 50 APARTMENTS IN EUROPEAN CITIES IN WHICH RED ARMY MEMBERS ARE HIDING IN PREPARATION FOR A COORDINATED "UPRISING" OR "REVOLT" THIS AUTUMN. EMBASSIES AND BUSINESS HOUSES, INCLUDING THEIR

OCCUPANTS, FIGURE IN THE REPORTED TARGETS OF THE RED ARMY. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT RED ARMY AND OTHER TERRORISTS MAY REGARD THE RECENT INCIDENT IN THE HAGUE AS A SUCCESS BY TERRORISTS' NORMAL DEFINITION, THERE IS GOOD REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE RED ARMY INCENTIVE FOR PURSUING THE REPORTED TARGETS HAS NOT DIMINISHED.

7. ACCORDINGLY, IT WOULD SEEM PRUDENT FOR MEMBER GOVERNMENTS OF NATO TO CONSULT WITH THEIR FRENCH AND DUTCH ALLIES, WHO CONDUCTED THEMSELVES WITH SPECIAL HEROISM AND PROFESSIONALISM IN EFFECTING THE RELEASE OF THE HOSTAGES IN THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN THE HAGUE, AND TO BENEFIT FROM THEIR HARROWING EXPERIENCES IN THAT INSTANCE. IN VIEW OF THE CONTINUED THREAT AGAINST, ALLIES AND OTHER INTERESTS FROM

THE PERPETRATORS OF THE CRIME IN THE FRENCH EMBASSY, LLIES SHOULD GIVE SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE RED ARMY AND, IF APPROPRIATE AND FEASIBLE, SHOULD TAKE STEPS TO ELIMINATE, OR AT LEAST TO MINIMIZE, ITS EFFECTIVENESS IN THE NATO AREA. COMMON ACTION AGAINST THIS THREAT OBVIOUSLY WILL CONSTITUTE A GREATER DETERRENT THAN THE ESSENTIALLY BILATERAL AND UNILATERAL COUNTER-MEASURES NOW UNDERWAY.

8. IT IS THEREFORE PROPOSED THAT THE COUNCIL DIRECT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS WHICH WOULD UNDERTAKE AN URGENT STUDY WITH THE FOLLOWING TERMS OF REFERENCE:

(A) MAKE A THOROUGH STUDY OF THE HAGUE INCIDENT.

(B) CITE LESSONS FROM WHICH GOVERNMENTS OTHER THAN THE NETHERLANDS AND FRANCE MIGHT BENEFIT IN SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES.

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(C) INVITE ALL NATO GOVERNMENTS, AS WELL AS THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT, TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS STUDY, INCLUDING SHARING OF APPROPRIATE INTELLIGENCE.

(D) SHARE INTELLIGENCE AND OTHER FINDINGS ON A NATO-WIDE BASIS.

(E) RECOMMEND TO MEMBER GOVERNMENTS MEASURES, INCLUDING ADMINISTRATIVE OR LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES, WHICH MIGHT BE TAKEN TO IDENTIFY AND, IF APPROPRIATE, TO APPREHEND MEMBERS OF THE RED ARMY.

(F) CONSIDER THE ASPECT OF EXTRADITION OF RED ARMY MEMBERS WHO HAVE COMMITTED CRIMES WITHIN JURISDICTIONS UNDER

NATO GOVERNMENTS' CONTROL AND WHO HAVE FLED.

(G) MAKE OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH MIGHT ENHANCE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS' CAPABILITY IN COUNTERING OTHER TERRORIST INITIATIVES.

9. FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, SUCH A STUDY SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN SECRECY.

10. IT IS FURTHER PROPOSED THAT EACH NATO GOVERNMENT, ON AN URGENT BASIS, NAME AT LEAST ONE EXPERT TO THIS STUDY GROUP, WHICH WILL BE HEADED BY THE (NETHERLANDS) REPRESENTATIVE, AND THAT THE AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS REPORT THEIR FINDINGS TO THE COUNCIL IN 30 DAYS. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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